

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claim 3-11 and 14-16 are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1 and 17 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment cancels and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After canceling and amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1, 12, 13, 17 and 18 are now pending in this application.

No New Issues Raised by Claim Amendments:

There are no new issues raised by the amendments made to the claims. Namely, claim 1 has been amended to include the features of dependent claim 16 and intervening claim 4, and thus claim 1 is in essence claim 16 placed in independent form. Claim 17, which depended from claim 16, now depends from claim 1, and thus the scope of that claim has not changed.

Accordingly, this Amendment and Reply that is being filed concurrently with an Appeal Brief should be entered for purposes of appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 13, 2008

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